



MONTEREY NEWS

FEBRUARY 1993



TOWN NEWS

Due to the recent snowstorms, the Selectmen have been discussing the overexpenditure of the salt and sand account. Nick Wool, Chairman of the Finance Committee, recommended that the overage be taken from free cash. This solution would necessitate a special town meeting. Another possibility is using the Reserve Fund, which would require only the authorization of the Finance Committee.

Monterey has fifty miles of roads. Keeping our roadways passable and safe this winter has required more hours and materials from the Highway Department

than any time in the past several years. Highway Department Superintendent Don Amstead reported that as of mid-January, the town had used 437 tons of salt, compared to 467 tons used during the entire winter last year. Recently, the Selectmen discussed the low use of salt on town roads during the ice storm of January 3. Don Amstead agreed that it would be desirable to use more salt in such weather conditions, particularly on Route 23. Selectman Georgiana O'Connell stated that she would not like to see Monterey's low-salt use policy abandoned, and she agreed that at any given time, salt usage is a judgment call to be made by the Highway Department.



At another meeting, Superintendent Amstead noted that ice storms, rain and freezing rain produce the worst conditions for keeping roads safe, because rain tends to wash away sand and salt as soon as it is laid down. When asked how he determines the need to activate his crew at night, Mr. Amstead explained that when a storm is forecast, he sets an alarm for 3:00 a.m. and goes out to check road conditions. If the roads are snowy or icy, he calls the rest of the crew, and they begin their day shortly thereafter. He also noted that his department generally does not plow between 11:00 p.m. and 3:00 a.m. Mr. Amstead also mentioned that the new 1993 Mack truck that was recently purchased has been an enormous help during this winter's severe weather.

The Board discussed town policy for issuing transfer station stickers and debated whether it should be the responsibility of the Selectmen to monitor compliance with sticker regulations. Selectman Bill Bohn suggested that the fee be applied to the tax rate, but the other two Board members (O'Connell and Brown) objected. Also under discussion was the hiring of personnel to issue the stickers.

At the January 4 meeting of the Board of Selectmen, sealed bids were opened for the sale of Highway Department equipment. The first bids were for a 1985 GMC truck with Fisher plow frame and Fisher plow, and they were as follows: ABC Septic & Environmental Services, Pittsfield, \$2,600.00; Liberty Motors, Inc., Jersey City, New Jersey, \$3,388.33; T&T

Truck & Auto Sales, Peru, Massachusetts, \$3,505.00; David Duquette, Hinsdale, Massachusetts, \$2,850.00. The second bids were for a 1978 GMC Brigadier dump truck, and they were as follows: ABC Septic & Environmental Services, Pittsfield, Massachusetts, \$3,200.00; Town of New Marlboro, \$3,001.00; Liberty Motors, Inc., Jersey City, New Jersey, \$1,891.99; T&T Truck & Auto Sales, Peru, Massachusetts, \$2,050.00; David Duquette, Hinsdale, Massachusetts, \$1,250.00. The Selectmen will study the bids and make their decisions at a later date.

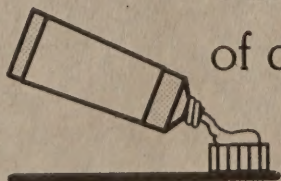
Also at the January 4 meeting, two public hearings were conducted on the petitions of the Massachusetts Electric Company and the New England Telephone Company for joint pole locations. Ray Almori of the Massachusetts Electric Company was present to answer questions about layouts and tree removal. The first petition was for the installation of three joint poles (#45, #46, #47) on Blue Hill Road, starting at a point approximately 4,563 feet east of the town line and continuing in an easterly direction approximately 390 feet. The second petition was for the installation of one joint pole (#25 1/2) at a point on Sandisfield Road approximately 6,438 feet southeast of the center line of the Otis Road and Route 23 intersection. Both petitions were granted and the orders signed by the Selectmen.

In the depths of the winter doldrums, no building permit applications were received during the past month.

— Maggie Leonard

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RABIES WARNING

Early in December, the raccoon rabies epidemic, which has been spreading up the east coast for several years, reached Berkshire County. The first confirmed case was reported from Monterey.

Rabies is a viral disease that attacks the nervous system of warm-blooded animals. Untreated rabies is invariably fatal, and death from rabies involves great suffering. Rabies is transmitted through the saliva of an infected animal.

Although the rabies epidemic is serious, it is important to recognize that not all raccoons are rabid. Avoiding contact with raccoons and other wildlife is more effective in preventing rabies than wantonly destroying animal populations. In the past, shooting or otherwise destroying wildlife has proved neither practical nor successful in controlling rabies outbreaks.

Do not leave food outdoors, either for wild animals, or for pet cats and dogs. Feed your pets inside.

Do not approach wildlife and warn children against doing so.

Make sure your pets are vaccinated against rabies, and keep them from roaming. The law has long required rabies vaccination for dogs, and beginning in February, Massachusetts law also mandates rabies vaccination for cats.

If a person is bitten by a wild animal, he or she should wash the wound immediately and go to a doctor or a hospital emergency room. Treatment for rabies, which must begin before symptoms appear, consists of a series of five injections given in the arm. Dale Duryea, the town Wildlife Management Officer, should be called at 528-9335. Dale will catch and destroy the animal, and its brain will be examined for rabies antibodies.

If a previously vaccinated dog or cat is bitten, the animal will receive a rabies booster and be quarantined for 90 days. If the pet animal has not been vaccinated, it will be destroyed. It cannot be emphasized strongly enough: **TO PROTECT YOUR PETS AND YOUR FAMILY, MAKE SURE YOUR DOGS AND CATS HAVE CURRENT RABIES VACCINATIONS.**

Rabid animals exhibit strange behavior after the virus attacks their brain cells. They may become aggressive or hyperactive and may attack for no real reason. Symptoms of rabies include a wild-eyed expression, a sagging jaw, saliva dripping, trying to eat or drink but unable to swallow, drawing back of lips as if grinning, or extremely aggressive behavior.

There are other causes for bizarre behavior in wild animals besides rabies. Some may have distemper. Some dazed-looking animals may have recently emerged from a period of dormancy and merely be sleepy. Most animals with bad skin, runny eyes, etc. are ill with mange, distemper, parasites or other sicknesses. If you have any questions or problems, call Dale Duryea. Save the phone number: 528-9335.

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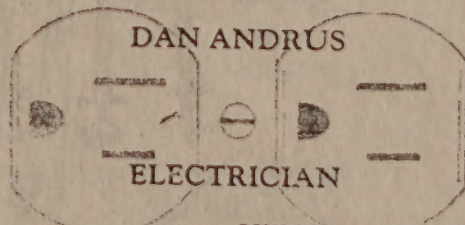
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CHILDREN'S HEALTH PROGRAM

Welcome to the season of Cabin Fever! Exercise can be a great way to release the tension of being inside all day. Turn on the television or radio and dance to music, even if you feel silly, and giggle with the children. Laughter will relieve tension, too.

We have planned two activities for February and hope you can join us. Our Valentine party will be held on February 11, at 10:00 a.m., at the Stockbridge playgroup site, the Youth Building on Shamrock Street. If you'd like to help with preparations, call Wendy or Claudette at 528-9311. We are also planning a winter picnic, outdoors, on February 18, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at Beartown State Forest in Monterey. Be prepared to skate or sled, cook out a lunch and have a good time. Be sure to call if you're unsure about the weather.

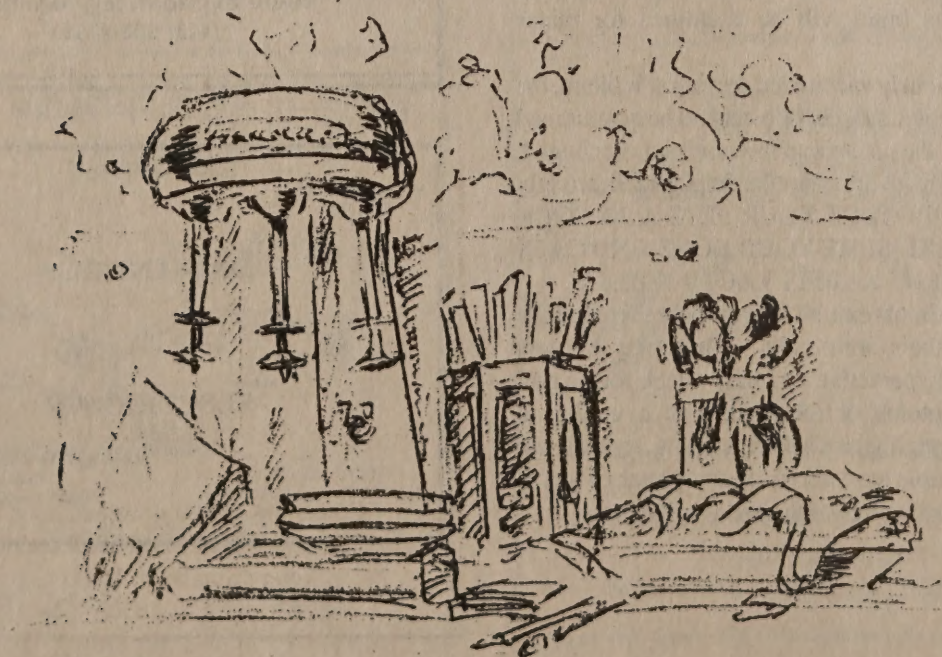
HEALTH ALERT! Children's Health Program Nursing Director, Jodi Tuller, has advised us of the following: "It has come to my attention that there are increasing numbers of infections caused by Hib being reported in Berkshire County. So far, these cases are in children who are not immunized against Hib. This is a life-threatening infection, and very serious in children under the age of six. If your child is not immunized and becomes sick with a fever, you should contact your health care provider immediately. I have given a public

health fact sheet about Hib to your playgroup for your information."

With increased utility and heating bills during the winter months, families may find it difficult to keep to their budgets. Several food programs are available for families who need additional help. They are: Community Services, 8 Castle Street, Great Barrington; Loaves and Fishes, St. James Church, Great Barrington; Community Emergency Needs Resource Center, St. George's Church, Lee; Food Stamps, Department of Welfare, Pittsfield; Old Parish Church, Sheffield; Stephen's Kitchen, State Road, Great Barrington; WIC Program, 54 Castle Street, Great Barrington. Call or visit each site to see if you qualify for assistance.

One winter activity that can include the whole family is the feeding of birds. Children delight in watching birds come to the feeder and can learn to identify different species. If you start feeding birds, it's important to be committed and continue to feed the birds until spring, when they can easily find wild food. Children can make bird feeders from toilet paper rolls or pine cones. Spread peanut butter on the article and then roll the article in bird seed. Hang the finished feeder by a string or ribbon on a tree near the house.

— Claudette Callahan





CHURCH NEWS

One of my goals for the new year is to be more intentional about taking care of myself. Not just my physical health, but my spiritual and emotional health as well. It's so easy for me to get sidetracked with all the "shoulds" and "oughts" of life that I don't take enough time (yes, that's the important word here — TIME) to nurture myself. Clearly, each of us can give more of ourselves if we, too, receive that which feeds our soul and makes our hearts sing. And that takes time. But what kind of time? In taking the "time" to read, I have picked up one of my favorite books — *Walking on Water: Reflections on Faith and Art*, by Madeleine L'Engle. She reminds me that in Greek, the language of the New Testament, there are two words for time.

Chronos: our wrist watch and alarm clock time. Kairos: God's time, real time. . . . Chronology as we know it began with creation. Time exists only where there is mass in motion. . . . We know that mass and energy are interchangeable, and that pure energy is freed from the restrictions of time. But even chronos varies from time zone to time zone. When I flew to Cyprus I had to make a seven hour adjustment. . . . In my grandfather's lifetime there was no standardization of time such as we're accustomed to today. Every locality set its own time, according to its own convenience. . . . In chronos we are restricted to this unevenness; in chronos we live most of our lives and watch our bodies growing older, our skin losing its elasticity, our energies their powers of duration. . . . Kairos. Real time. God's time. That time which breaks through chronos with a shock of joy, that time we do not recognize while we are experiencing it, but only afterwards, because kairos has nothing to do with chronological time. In kairos we are completely unselfconscious, and yet paradoxically far more real than we can ever be when we are constantly checking our watches. The saint in contemplation, lost (discovered) to self in the mind of God is in kairos. The artist at work is in kairos. The child at play, totally outside himself/herself in the game, be it building a sandcastle or making a daisy chain, is in kairos. In kairos we become what we are called to be as human

beings, co-creators with God, touching the wonders of creation.

There you have it. The movement and moments of each day can be viewed in two ways — quantitatively measured and categorized, or qualitatively accepted and lived. Our task is to look at time in a new way. Now, in reality, we are all bound to the clock and the calendar. There are always appointments to keep, work to be accomplished and responsibilities to be maintained. But what gives our measured moments depth is the ability to live, not only in physical reality, but also spiritual reality — to become lost in our contemplations, our work and our play. In so doing, we become discovered. We discover anew the saint, the artist, the child buried deep within us. It is at this level that we begin to touch the wonders of creation and, in the process, become fully alive as co-creators with God.

So, I'm not planning to make more time for myself this year, rather to experience time in the fullest way possible. And if you see me hurrying through town, I invite you to keep me accountable — just remind me to stop and smell the roses, or hum my latest composition, or make an angel in the snow. And then, let's talk for a few "kairos" minutes about saints, artists and children.

— Cliff Aerie

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— Abraham Heschel*

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— Ephesians 2:10*

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THE BIDWELL HOUSE

January was a busy and exciting month at The Bidwell House. Our first college intern, Todd Pennas, a history and political science major from Westfield State College, began working at the museum. Todd's project is an inventory of our collection of historical documents that date from 1750 to the late 19th century. Each document is assigned a number, measured and checked for condition. A brief description of its subject is written. The documents are then stored in acid-free folders and boxes to protect them from damaging sunlight, dust and modern acidic paper. Todd will then computerize the inventory, which will make research among the papers easier.

What is in our archives? All the documents relate in some way to the Bidwell family. Because the Bidwells were important in town affairs, the papers deal with the history of Monterey, and include church records, temperance records, deeds, surveys, account books, letters and tax records. When the project is completed, the archives will be available to interested people by appointment.

On January 16, Troops 66, 166, 412, 25, 324 and 488 from Monterey, Otis and Great Barrington, met for

a three-hour herb gardening workshop. The event was led by Susan McGlew, Curator of the Smith College Botanical Gardens and three students from that school. The sixty girls planted herb seeds and cuttings, and learned how herbs were used for cooking, medicine, fragrance and dying cloth in the 18th century. The planted seeds will be nurtured at two greenhouses, where space has been graciously donated — the Mount Everett Regional School and the Munnbrook Valley Greenhouse in Westfield.

As we come to the end of our membership drive, we can report a more than 50% increase in contributions over last year. We especially appreciate the people of Monterey who have come forward to support the museum, but our goal of involving the whole community has yet to be reached. It's still not too late to send in your membership dues. Your membership begins on the date we receive your check and lasts for a full calendar year. If you need a form, or have further questions, please call me at 528-6888. Membership contributions are an important part of our operating budget, so please help us maintain Monterey's own historic house museum by sending in your membership dues.

— Lisa Simpson



Girl Scouts at the herb gardening workshop

OUR TOWN

Hide and Seek, with Valentines

You could buy them by the pack, or on a punch-out sheet. Or you could make them yourself, if you could think of something trite enough to shield any serious feelings. Few valentine cards were the folded kind; Hallmark's dollar cards were still in the future.

But, mid-February was a special time for the eight grades in my one-room Woodland School. Thirteen students, and our teacher, exchanged whimsical paper-thin cards with puppies, kites or giraffes telling exaggerated messages of affection: "My neck *longs* for you," or "I'm a high flyer about you, Valentine." This was heavy duty, to talk like this in our town. It happened only in February, under the cover of Saint Valentine's Day, with the pagan Cupid deep in the background. You can imagine the emotions this season stirred up. Embarrassment won first place, of course. Imagine the valentine from a second grade girl that says she's "setting my cap for you, Valentine!" Nobody will see *that* silly scrap of paper! Or, one from the teacher, whose heart supposedly "pitter-patters" for me, as I sink into my desk and try not to look at her. But, even embarrassment takes on a many splendored hue if the same kind of message comes from just the right direction. Miss Brown Pigtales slips me a treasure from

her fifth-grade desk two places over; the puppy on the front says that its heart "bow-wows for you, Valentine!"

Suddenly, that big schoolroom got very tiny. My face was hot. No one else was in the room any more; millions of people were looking at me. Where could I run to hide?

I suppose it was the candy and whatever else we ate at the Valentine party that helped me recover. The food, *and* not looking at Miss Pigtales for a very long time. And never, ever mentioning the valentine, or that it was different from all the other valentines I got that day.

At Valentine time, the winter was starting to break its grip. There were more sunny days to play tag at recess on the side-winged snow banks of the crossroad by the schoolhouse. Puddles melted and froze on the deep snow in the low corner of the schoolyard.

We soon forgot about the shape of our hearts, and we threw away the embarrassing pictures of animals telling us how much the sender liked us. We had only brief bouts of schoolyard disagreements or classroom embarrassments. Our emotions were put under wraps, where emotions belong in a small town.

I kept the puppy valentine from Miss Pigtales for a long time, but I didn't tell her. I didn't even talk to her much. I guess I told Jerry or Maurice.

— Wayne Burkhardt



the BOOKLOFT

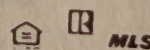
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MONTEREY SKI DAY

On Friday, March 5, Monterey Ski Day will once again be celebrated at Butternut Basin. There will be special reduced rates for the whole day for Monterey residents only. A great party in the upper lodge, hosted by Channing Murdock, will begin at 3:30 p.m. Non-skiers from Monterey are invited to attend this affair also.

For more information, call Fran or Dean Amidon at 528-1233. See you there!

MONTEREY LIBRARY NOTES

Once again this year, the library will sponsor a trip to Fenway Park for a Boston Red Sox home game. The trip will take place on May 1, but we must know who is coming by February 20 so that we can order tickets. Last year's outing was a big success; don't miss it this time. Stop in or call the library to make your reservations.

MONTEREY GRANGE NEWS

Monterey Grange #291 met on January 20. The theme of the program was A Stroll Down Memory Lane. Two guests from Stockbridge were present and thoroughly enjoyed the evening with our local members.

Twenty-two Christmas Cheer boxes were assembled by our members for the 1992 holiday season and distributed to private homes, hospitals and nursing homes in the area.

The next meeting will be February 17, for a Valentine program, with special refreshments.

— Mary Wallace



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MONTEREY WILDLIFE SURVEY

From Dale Duryea: Deer "yarded up" this time of year in sheltered woods, where they create a network of trails, providing access to browsing, and mobility if they are disturbed. Coyote tracks and sign around Art School Road. An otter on January 21, headed down the Konkapot from Brewer Pond. A few, not many red foxes around. A porcupine at Brockman's on New Year's Day, behaving oddly, heading straight for people instead of running away. (How could any other animal get close enough to it to give it rabies?) A bobcat was seen again on New Marlboro Road. The muskrat population seems much reduced everywhere in the county, not just at Lake Garfield. Cottontail rabbits seen here and there; the population seems to have peaked.

On January 21, five of Dale's six animal calls were for sick raccoons, all in that part of town along Blue Hill Road north of Route 23. They are not being tested for rabies and may well have only had distemper, but people who live in that section and visitors to Beartown State Forest should be on the alert.

By mid-January, 17 cases of rabies had been reported in Berkshire County (eight of them in raccoons). Monterey, as well as Sheffield and Great Barrington, is listed as a contaminated town. The disease is spreading rapidly, and within another year, can be expected to be present countywide. Once rabies is established in an area, it is likely to remain a problem for *twenty to thirty years*. It is clear that we are going to have to think differently about how we use the outdoors. However, if we do not panic and behave sensibly, we can protect our families and our pets from this terrible disease. Please make sure to read *Rabies Warning*, elsewhere in this issue.

From Loul McIntosh at Gould Farm: The three dozen or so goldfinches have appropriated the sunflower seed feeder. Chickadees, white- and red-breasted nuthatches, purple and house finches, tufted titmice may approach only when the lords and masters are stuffed and want no more.

The brash house sparrows are too shy to come under the regular feeder. However, if I sweep up the spilled seed and spread it under their favorite hedge, they are delighted and feed by the hour.

And the end of each rain storm, the overflow of the house pond turns into a giant communal bath for all comers, with no gender, color or race discrimination. Anything with feathers is welcome to splash and dunk.

From Art Hasted: Wildlife has been pretty quiescent because of the deep snow. Coyotes have been doing a good job cleaning up a number of deer carcasses (does, illegally killed by hunters) in the woods. One deer yard with a long history lies on the south side of Dry Hill. The first white settler in New Marlboro lived over there in a house that still stands on the New Marlboro Academy grounds. His gun was confiscated by the Indians, who depended on the deer supply to get them through the winter, and the settler had to depend on some relatives in a nearby town to get him through the winter.

From Eleanor Kimberley: First week in January, at the feeder: blue jays, chickadees, juncos, cardinals (both male and female), tufted titmice, white- and red-breasted nuthatches, downy and hairy woodpeckers, grey squirrel, two or three red squirrels, flying squirrels, chipmunk (!). Raccoon seen on Route 23.

Crows and ravens: Several people have reported crows about town, and a few ravens. The latter can be distinguished from crows by their larger size, boat-shaped tails, aerial gymnastics and vocal virtuosity. They croak, rattle, and even make gong-like sounds as they fly over. These antic neighbors have been with us only in recent years.

— David P. McAllester

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THE FAMILIAR GREY SQUIRREL

In December's *Monterey News*, I wrote a column about flying squirrels, and ever since, people have been telling me how happy they are to learn that flying squirrels exist, to notice that they have them in their bird feeders or in their lives. Flying squirrels, for quite a few *Monterey News* readers, are a new and maybe exotic treat. (Two people said they thought flying squirrels could be found only in Asia or in the tropics.)

Every night, we have many flying squirrels in our bird feeder, often as many as ten. We love seeing them there and think they are special, just as if they were not native and not common, just as if they came from the tropics. The readers who tell me about their newly discovered flying squirrels speak with affection and pleasure. There is a smile on the face of the person talking about a flying squirrel.

My *Bartlett's Quotations* says it is Aesop who gave us the aphorism, "Familiarity breeds contempt" back in 250 B.C. and it has been on my mind this winter as it applies to squirrels and the looks on peoples' faces. When we speak of flying squirrels, we get all soft and glowing, but if we are on about the big daytime grey squirrel, the lines of our faces harden and the blood pressure rises.

"What do you know about grey squirrels?" someone asked me recently. She was not smiling. I

knew what she meant, of course. It was, "How do you keep them away? How do you feed your sunflower seeds only to the cute little birdies and the charming red and flying squirrels, without also donating to the greedy old disgusting fat grey squirrels?"

I will come clean with you right now: I am a child of Aesop, and my face does not look the same for the grey squirrel as for the flying ones, or should I say, the face of my inner self does not find all squirrels created equal. So far, I think the PC board of censors will allow me to confess that I deep down inside love one kind of squirrel better than another. But the question was not what do I confess, but what do I *do*.

What I do about the grey squirrel is I use it as a subject for my homemade self-improvement program. A typical self-improvement dialogue goes like this:

Bad Old Inner Self: Ugh! There is a big fat boring old grey squirrel in the feeder gobbling down costly sunflower seeds which I wish would stay there and attract all sorts of smaller and cuter creatures such as finches and grosbeaks, chickadees and titmice, and at night, flying squirrels. I wish the grey would go away.

New Improved Inner Self: Now, now. How can you be so narrow minded, so unappreciative, so blind to furry beauty? You must be just a bit ignorant, not to mention unfortunate. Take a closer look at the miracle in your feeder.

Bad Old Self: Miracle? Spare me. These gluttons have been around forever and they are no use to anybody. There are zillions of them and all they are is fat and grey.

New Self: What, pray tell, have you got against fat and grey? Have you looked in the mirror lately? And as for zillions, that is irrelevant. You do not have zillions. At the moment, you have one, and I say you are lucky. Look closely at the snowy white of the underbelly, the agouti banding of each hair of the grey. Notice the fulvous bits on this individual, on its face and tail especially. Each one is different, and some are sooty, or even black. Some are so rusty you would think they are part red squirrel or part fox. And now, having paid attention to its colorful beauty, look at its incredible grace, from the curve of its tail and the round brow to the fine whiskers and long fingers. See its toe pads, and remember what you know about its progress through the trees, its balance, its strength, its judgment.

Bad: Oh, sure. You're going to tell me there is something wonderful about every living thing, and I would be better off, healthier in mind and body, if I would exercise myself a little to see these things.

New: Yes, I am.

That's the way the dialogue runs. By the end, Bad Old Me is blushing and New Me is feeling serene and enlightened, basically More Appreciative Than Thou. Now, this is an arrogant state and leads, like all self-improvement courses, to tortuous (fascinating) paths for further enlightenment. But it is best not to take on too much at once, too many paths or directions. I think it is enough, given the hundreds of years of Aesop's influence, to get *contempt* right out of the familiarity ball park, or bird feeder. What do I do about familiar grey squirrels? I love them. And feed them.

— Bonner J. McAllester




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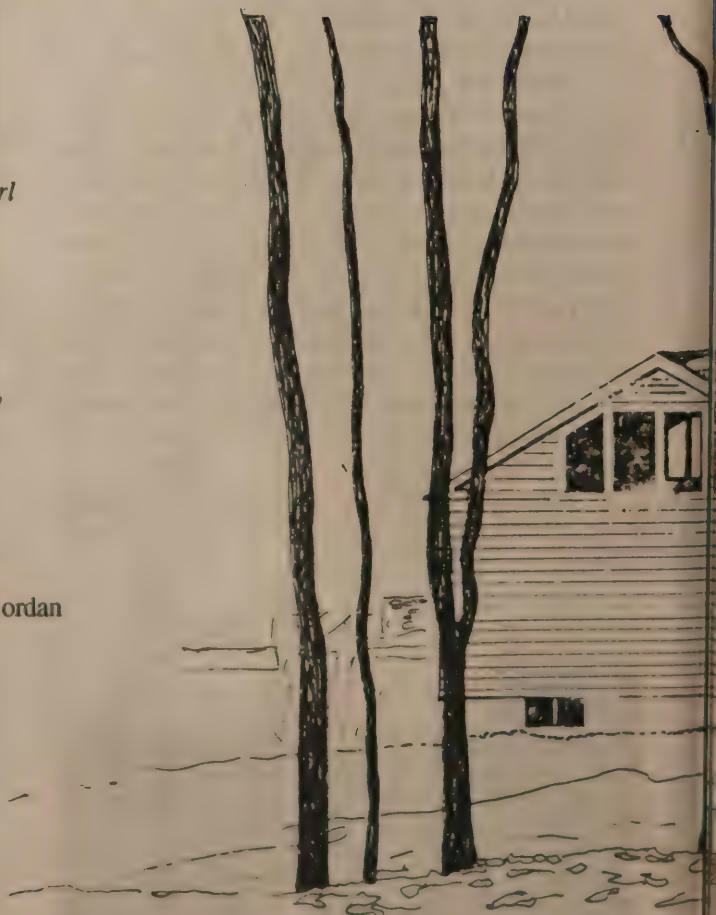
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In Bangladesh, Toronto and New York:
Behold. I am with you, as you, always.
All ways. Always. Because you will succor
The birds with millet, silent skies will sing
Again, yet silent stars in flesh reduce
To ash for lack of food on earth. Release
The ox and donkey from their stalls. The girl
Whose labor liberated love requests
A moment of your time, a word with you.*

*Release the baby still asleep and
Swaddled in the straw which is your heart.
Hear the bleating of my starving sheep. My
Children, younger siblings of the Sun,
Become the wisdom sanctified by scars
On birds and human bodies not your own.
This night the child is born in Bosnia.*

— MaryKate Jordan

*To rest — I ask
I felt done-in, ton
A PROBLEM rea
And wants to clim*

*But if it can't be s
Then Matthew, L
I beg be near me,
I pray this prayer*



I.

dear God,
my first nod,
did, ugly head
into my soft bed.

me apace,
John's sweet saving grace
make me sleep —
d, for Thee to keep.
Amen.

— Sue Moody



JANUARY THAW:

DUCKS IN THE FJORD

*The Chinook wind has raised its gentle breath
And all our great snow's dwindled down by half.
The inlet opening in the white-laced pond
Is water, gleaming black with glacier walls,
And there our ducks sail in the narrow strait,
Proprietors of all this black-white world.*

CROQUET

*Forty inches of snow can make a difference:
The panicked dogwoods, for instance, disappeared,
And, when the thaw got down to where they were,
There was revealed an aggregate of hoops,
Every stem bent over to the ground,
Tops frozen to a croquet field of ice.*

— David P. McAllester

ENIGMA

*My first is in summer and also in spring.
My second's in autumn but not in fall.
My third is in morning, but not in evening.
My last is in winter, and that is all.*

Find the letters that spell the answer.

— Eleanor Kimberley

Answer on page 20

JANUARY 16-19, 1993

*Imagine Bela Lugosi in Father Knows Best,
Angry, searching, proud and poignant.
You have to find the humor there.
It's weird, I tell you.
It's interesting information, but the significance is unknown.
I couldn't make it up if I tried.
Those who think so are smoking funny tobacco.
Greedy geezers, repulsed and disgusted,
A menagerie full of drooling halfwits,
They are spies! They are spies!
We are now at war, and can no longer be complacent.
I've started to become a believer, I guess.
My conscience leaves me no other choice.
I don't get paid to get bit — my mission is different.
Don't expect me to come out and do cartwheels.
This is a work in progress.
I want to catch the feeling of radiant ordinariness.
Live long and prosper.
Don't fret — you've done a horrible job.
This was a cakewalk compared with twenty years ago.*

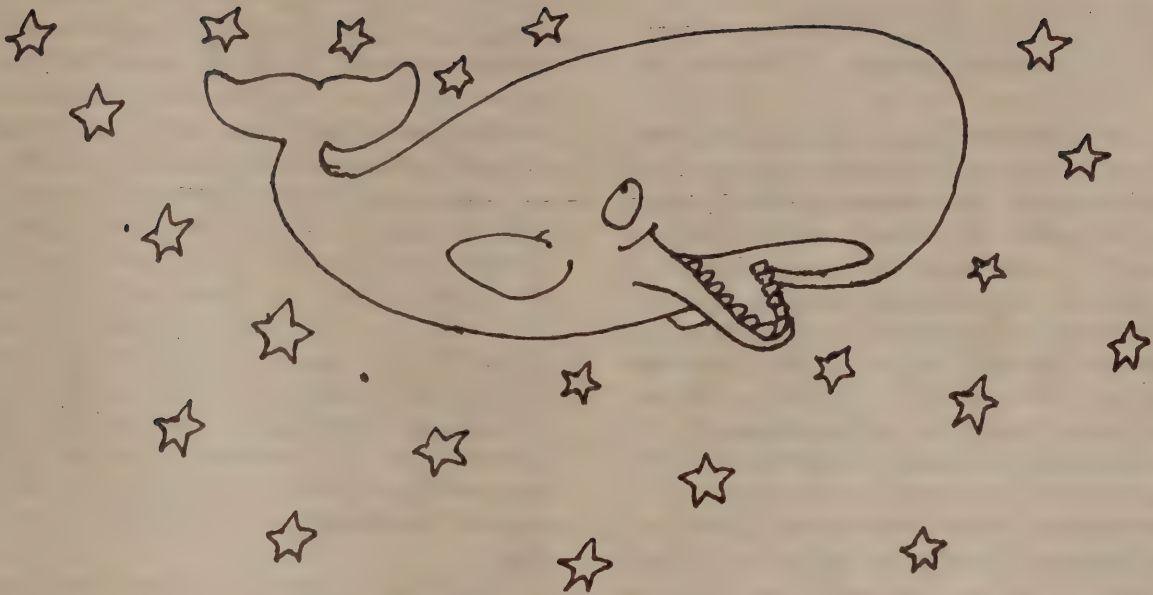
— D.R. Strange



CHORUS

*The voices speak out
They speak to me
They speak to no one
They speak of all things
They say nothing*

— Morgan Schick



THOSE LITTLE NOTHINGS

*The sweet talk flows
Even as we age.
Through physical highs and lows
And every difficult stage
Still, thank goodness,
The sweet talk flows.*

*When the primroses close
Though the day has its stress
And schedules to meet,
Sometimes difficult, I confess,
And the hour's bittersweet —
In the twilight the sweet talk flows.*

*When the cabbages froze
The sky dawned gray.
Real winter had descended, I suppose.
Bitter cold joined the fray
But by the fireside warmth
The sweet talk flows.*

— Nancy Adams

*You know what it's like
To walk through a crowded
room*

*Listening
To the many conversations?
You get only parts of sentences.
That's what it's like
Inside my head.*

— Morgan Schick

*The grass is green
The air is clean
and then at night
it waits
until morning makes it light.*

— Meredith Friedman

WHO'S WHO IN MONTEREY

Bob and Barbara Gauthier

The Gauthiers both grew up in Greenfield, Massachusetts, and, off and on, they were high school sweethearts there. "Perhaps it was the attraction of opposites," they say. He was an all-out athlete, she was not so all-out; he the dreamer, she the practical one; he the humanist, she the wizard with numbers; he the Democrat, she the Republican. By the time Bob was a senior at St. Anselm College in New Hampshire, they began to feel it was a fated combination. One day, while waiting for a free court where he was going to give her a tennis lesson, they made the decision; their families, the Gauthiers and the Armstrongs, backed them up, and they got married when he graduated. Barb never felt any real need to play a great deal of tennis after that.

Bob started his long career in teaching in a little school in Hennicker, New Hampshire in 1961, and joined the New Hampshire Air National Guard for his service obligation. After three months of summer training in Texas, he had been back teaching for eight

days when the Berlin crisis developed. Suddenly, he was in the service for real, ferrying supplies, taking charge of personnel, flying to Berlin and back every few weeks. However, he resumed his teaching job in 1962. Their first child, Pamela Jean, was born while the Gauthiers were still living in New Hampshire.

The career opportunities in Hennicker proved to be limited, and Bob wrote to several other towns (all in New England, of course!). Three days after sending a letter to Sheffield, he got a phone call, and the Gauthiers moved to the South Berkshires, forever. At the Mount Everett School, there was twice the pay, a good contract, collegial fellow teachers and a teaching philosophy that encouraged innovative ideas and imagination. The Gauthiers found a nice apartment in Great Barrington, had two more children, James Kenneth and David Alan, and began looking every weekend for the perfect house.

It was their family doctor who told them about the Richters in Monterey in the house that Howard Wells had made from an old barn. The Richters wanted to move to be closer to their grown children, so they were very happy to hear of the Gauthiers' house search. A number of visits and calls created such a friendly



The Gauthiers: Jim, Barb, Bob, David, Pam, friend Sarah, Jeff

relationship that when Bob and Barb bought the house in 1967, it seemed to all involved that just another part of the family was moving in. The Gauthiers' fourth child, Jeffrey Francis, was born here in Monterey.

From the start, the Gauthiers wanted to participate in town affairs, and Bob promptly found a niche on a committee studying salary schedules of town employees. When he showed an interest in becoming a Selectman (not for the wages!), Helen Shaw, a Monterey colleague at Mount Everett, said, "Well, why do you want to start at the top?" Nevertheless, he was selected, and he continued to serve for the next five years during a period of considerable civic excitement. Those were the years of the Lake Garfield dam crisis and the building of a new dam, the sanitary cleanup of the Konkapot and the renovation of the town dump with concrete vaults (widely copied by other towns until landfill became obsolete). The proposed re-routing of Route 23, the hottest issue of the '70s, and eventually rejected by the town, also occurred during Bob's tenure.

When Bob retired as Selectman, the children were all in school, and Barb had time to become the Town Treasurer. She held this job for six or seven years and then became a member of the Finance Committee, which she chaired for several years. Since 1989, she has been the Town Accountant. She has also steered the finances of the *Monterey News* for many years.

Bob, still an athlete, has been a runner for over thirty years. In 1981, when the *I Love Monterey* festival was started, Bob inaugurated the Monterey Footrace, a feature of our summer celebration ever since. The race attracts over a hundred entrants annually. They come from all over the Northeast for the natural course over country roads and for the friendly and relaxed atmosphere. One of the runners is always Bob himself.

Bob has also been the Johnny Appleseed of soccer in the schools of the region. From the days when there were only five or six "kickball" teams in Berkshire County, Bob's efforts have created nearly fifty varsity and junior varsity teams. Bob's second career, besides teaching history and government at Mount Everett, has been as a soccer referee at high schools and colleges across the Northeast.

As for the teaching, Bob has taken special pleasure in searching out new ways to stimulate his students' interest in learning. *Curriculum* to him is an exciting word. He has done graduate work in the subject in several schools, including an MA at the University of Massachusetts. He has more than enough additional credits for the PhD, and says, "Maybe I'll write the

dissertation when I retire!" His joy in his profession is so evident that a student gave him the ultimate compliment: "Why, you're just one of the kids!"

The four Gauthier children now range from 25 to 30 years of age. Pamela is going to be the first one to get married. This summer, she will be catering her own wedding, right here in Monterey, under the watchful eye of her fiance, a professional chef. James is an interior designer with Bierly-Drake in Boston; David is a carpenter at the Rock and Crystal Museum in Seattle; Jeffrey is an electrician at the computerized ALCAN plant in Franklin, New Hampshire. At any breakdown, everything stops, and he is the one who has to get those robots back to work in the shortest possible time.

In 1987, the Gauthiers bought their cottage in York, Maine, near where they had been taking their yearly August vacations at the ocean. They love the peace and quiet there after the hectic pace of their deeply involved lives in the Monterey community. Then, after a while, they can't wait to be back here in the thick of things. Bob is now on the Democratic Town Committee, and Barb, naturally, is on the Republican Town Committee. Just to show how the community spirit leads in all directions, Barb worked part-time in the Monterey General Store for several years, and for the past twelve years, Bob has helped Maynard Forbes, the manager, collate the Sunday *New York Times*. They have perfected their system to the point where they can assemble 125 papers in 13 minutes.

It is easy to predict that when retirement comes in a few years, the Gauthiers will simply multiply the interests in their lives. They plan to travel, especially in the United States, and they plan to go right on participating in the pleasures of their homes and communities in York, Maine and Monterey, Massachusetts.

— David P. McAllester



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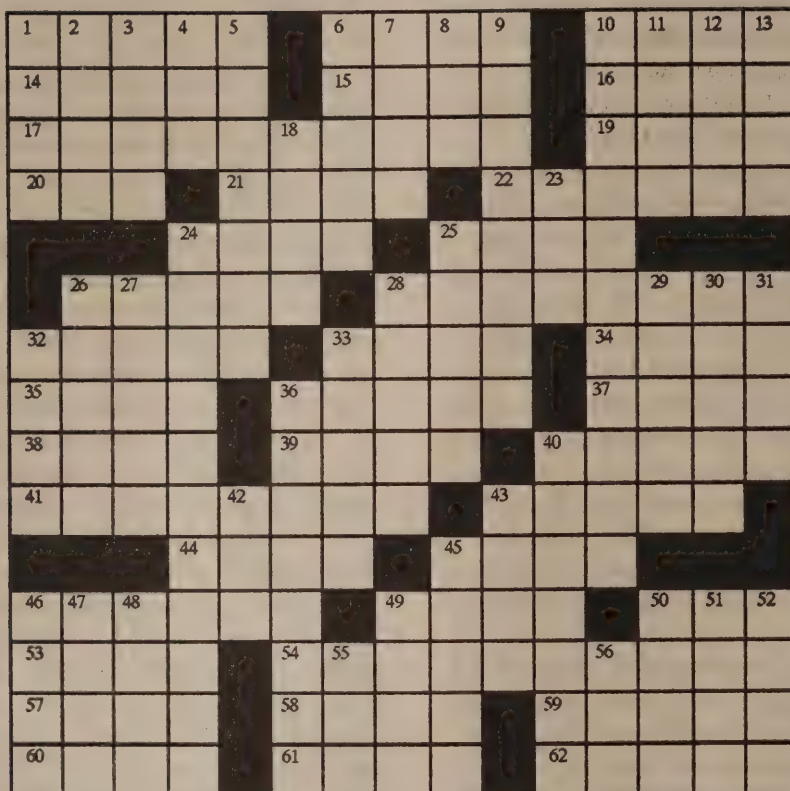
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STRING SECTION

By Ted Tchack



ACROSS

- | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| 1 Befall | 20 Pen | 34 Indigo | 43 Coins | 53 Egyptian god |
| 6 Filaments | 21 Transmit | 35 Of an age | 44 Capital | 54 LANKY ONE |
| 10 Eye sore | 22 Together | 36 Pursue | 45 Lay | 57 Yearn |
| 14 _____ Lama | 24 Equine | 37 Path | 46 Pacific is-land | 58 Amphibian |
| 15 French department | 25 Large family | 38 Feels bad | 49 Medicinal plant | 59 Artery |
| 16 Hardwood | 26 Grownup | 39 Garden need | 50 _____na-na | 60 Looks at |
| 17 TIGHTENER | 28 Harsh sound | 40 Poet and clergyman | | 61 Not all |
| 19 Law | 32 Stone pillar | 41 Bed part | | 62 Projections |
| | 33 Coagulate | | | |

DOWN

- | | | | | |
|---------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 Likelihood | 9 Govern | 24 USE INFLU-ENCE | 33 Elected | 48 Sharpen |
| 2 Conveyance | 10 LEAD ON | 25 Near | 36 Lab workers | 49 "My Name is _____" |
| 3 Fine soil | 11 Northern Eur. | 26 Courtyards | 40 Irish count | 50 Yugoslav |
| 4 Union initials | 12 Ivy school | 27 Gave out | 42 Decay | 51 Detest |
| 5 Fried in deep fat | 13 Supplemented (with "out") | 28 Grouping | 43 Satellite | 52 Collections |
| 6 Callous | 18 Temporary dwelling | 29 Foolish | 45 Skid | 55 Also |
| 7 Dry | 23 Girl's name | 30 Foolish one | 46 Account | 56 Express dis-approval |
| 8 Lodgings | | 31 Mirth | 47 Chinese island | |
| | | 32 Furrow | | |

Ans. on page 20

ON THE ROAD AGAIN

Further South

The morning was clear in Pennsylvania. When there's sun, at least a partial one, the world is a better place to live in. You see history everywhere, roads to Gettysburg and Harper's Ferry. I had been to both. The sign said, *Welcome to Maryland. Drive gently.* In 45 minutes, you go from Pennsylvania, through Maryland, through West Virginia and into Virginia. How about that — in 45 minutes!

When you gas up (and that's often for me), you OUGHT to look the rig over. This morning, I found that the electrical cord from camper to car had come out, and had been dragging for miles down I-81 — a mess. When I wove in and out, changing lanes, there had been no brake or turn lights on the little Toyota! Wow! I saw a U-Haul place and pulled in. In five minutes, the man had put a new end on the cord (he refused to take any money) and I was back on I-81.

Reading the signs as you go along makes the time go faster. Every little body of water, from lake to creek, has its own sign: the big Susquehanna in Pennsylvania, then, in Virginia, Narrow Passage Creek, Pugh's Run, Christian's Creek, Black's Run. When you cross over I-64 to Richmond, the sign says, *When fog is on the mountain, be alert, drive slowly.* I saw the sign for Monterey, Virginia, near Staunton, the road to Goochland, Blackwater Swamp, through King and Queen County to Tappahannock on the Rappahannock River, where our own Sue Moody White spends her winters.

I surprised Sue. We had a nice dinner and good talk. I started out early the next morning. Green fields, bare trees, white sheep and white cows. The day grew warmer, and I started shedding clothes. Off went my fur vest, then my knee socks.

When you approach the turnpike, there's always a sign: *No bikes, motorcycles, mopeds, farm machines and animals.* I don't think animals can read the sign! There a sign for a ski area. Shenandoah University is in Winchester, Virginia, Lord Fairbanks College in Middletown, Wasusutta Military Institute in Woodstock. There's Edinburg (without the *h*). Makes me think about my lovely visit to the one in Scotland. There's Florence, North Carolina, with cotton fields on the outskirts. (Who can forget the *real* Florence?) There's Sardis, North Carolina (that restaurant in New York, mecca of theater-goers. . .pleasant memories). There's the second dead fawn I've seen this morning.

Back to reality.

Into South Carolina. Fireworks for sale. Holly trees. Green bushes. Green trees, other than the long-needle pines we have all the way down. First big bird, an osprey. There's the Little PeeDee River, then after a while, the Great PeeDee River. I took off my sweater. Into a familiar park, The Oaks, between Charleston, South Carolina and Savannah, Georgia. I took a drive to Beaufort and Hilton Head.

Next day, Georgia. Sign: *Welcome. We're glad you have Georgia on your mind.* Around Savannah, there's everything, then nothing for two hours. When you get to Brunswick and the Golden Isles, everything again. A second osprey.

Into Florida. Palm trees. I put my shorts on. Saw my first train of the whole trip, five engines, almost 100 cars, 2/3 of them empty. Avoided the problems of rock-throwers and snipers on Route 295 around Jacksonville by taking 301 all the way down to Clermont, home of the Orlando Thousand Trails Park. Couldn't wait to put on my bathing suit, ride my bike through palms and flowering bushes, and, *whoosh*, into the pool.

— Joan Woodard Reed

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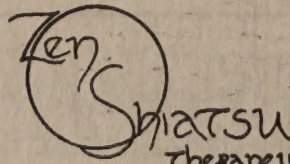
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Once again, we have Monterey babies to report this month; this time, three little girls. Congratulations to **Allan Dean** and **Julie Shapiro**, whose daughter, **Eloisa Shapiro Dean** was born on December 27. Eloisa weighed 6 lbs. 6 oz. at birth. Proud grandparents are **David and Gerry Shapiro** of Beartown Mountain Road.

Sharing the December 27 birthday is the new daughter of **Peter and Karen Gottlieb Schulze**. **Eliana Joy**, born at home on New Marlboro Road, weighed in at 7 lbs. 14 oz.

And finally, congratulations to **Robert and Jill Jenssen Stoner**, whose daughter, **Nadine Harriet**, was born at Fairview Hospital on January 13.

Kudos to **Jen Brown**, a theater major at Berkshire Community College, who achieved a perfect 4.0 grade average for the fall semester. Jen is the daughter of **Maryellen Brown** of Hupi Road.

More academic congratulations are in order for **Meghan and Erin Sadlowski**, juniors at Monument Mountain, who were recently inducted into the National Honor Society in a candlelight ceremony held at the school.

Very Happy Birthday wishes this month to **Gige O'Connell** on February 1, to **Mark Makuc** on February 2, to **John Mulroy** and **Gabrielle Ross-Logsdon** on February 6, to **Mike Mielke, Jr.** on February 7, to **Claude "Tim" Burke** on February 9, to **Jack Jefferson** and **Lanny Lanoue** on February 14, to **Dave Gauthier** on February 15, to **Maryellen Brown** on February 16, to **Kimberly Gero** and **James Hall** on February 18, to **Rachel Rodgers** on February 20, to **Maggie Clawson** on February 22, to **Mark Amstead** on February 26, to **Paul Makuc** and **Morgan Schick** on February 27, and to the Leap Year Kid, **Shaen O'Connor** on February 29 (March 1?).

And, Happy Anniversary wishes to **Gerry and Marge McMahon** on February 7, and to **Don and Pat Amstead** on February 27.

Our regular *Personal Notes* Editor, **Stephanie Grotz**, has returned from a well-deserved vacation, so please send your March news items to her, Route 23, or give her a call at 528-4519.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Our thanks to the following people who sent in contributions during the past month:

Paul & Martha Thorn
Jane & Richard Perin
Shirley Dolby
Margaret Pasche
David & Judith Kaprelian

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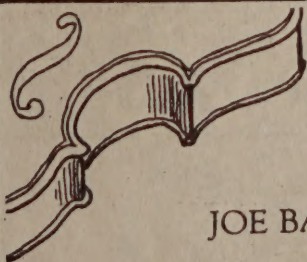
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CALENDAR

Saturday, February 6—Film Festival. 7:30 p.m. at the Monterey Library.

Saturday, February 13—SQUARE AND CONTRA DANCE, New England style, at the Sheffield Grange, Route 7, Sheffield, Mass. 8:30-11:30 p.m. Beginners and children welcome. All dances taught by caller Joe Baker, music by Mountain Laurel. Refreshments served. Adults \$4, children \$1 to dance until intermission. Information: 528-9385.

Saturday, February 13—Film Festival. 7:30 p.m. at the Monterey Library.

Tuesday, February 16—Free blood pressure clinic. 9:00-10:30 a.m., downstairs at the town hall.

Saturday, February 27—SQUARE AND CONTRA DANCE, New England style, at the Sheffield Grange, Route 7, Sheffield, Mass. 8:30-11:30 p.m. This program is for people who have some square or contra dance experience. All dances taught by caller Joe Baker, music by Mountain Laurel. Refreshments served. Admission \$4. Information: 528-9385.

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